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**To:** Microsoft ATR **Date:** 12/28/01 1:23pm

**Subject:** Comment re Proposed Settlement

Microsoft's proposed settlement is a travesty which makes mockery of the findings and further, serves as a marketing plan to extend its monopoly into the education market, and it clears the way for Microsoft to continue it monopolistic practices for years to come.

The "\$1 Billion donation" consists primarily of seeding-enveloping less prosperous schools and children with lesser-quality/refurbished computers and Microsoft software which costs pennies per copy to provide. It is not a penalty, but a marketing reward, harmful to some of the same competitors Microsoft has already been found to have harmed. Cash with no Microsoft strings attached is the only proper remedy for this aspect of the settlement. Schools and all markets deserve the freedom to choose the products they want. The provisions relating to supposed assurance of monitoring-preventing future anti-competitive practices by Microsoft are woefully inadequate in the face of a company culture that historically ignores and obfuscates the law and any rulings and findings.

Justice is not at all served by this settlement, nor are consumers and competitors. Continued delays have and continue to play a major role in promulgating Microsoft's anti-competive practices and strategies. There is great risk that an inadequate settlement and loose behavioral restrictions will result in Microsoft soon controlling the internet and ultimately the bulk of all electronic devices and systems in the all-connected-wired future. The court needs to impose a true and just settlement, quickly.

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